

United States-Ghana Partnership for Growth

Joint Statement of Principles

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Ghana,

Understanding that development cooperation represents a sound investment in broad-based economic growth, collective prosperity and security, and democracy and human rights, and;

Acknowledging that development progress requires a shared focus on sustainable outcomes and results, country ownership and responsibility, transparency, and mutual accountability, and;

Recognizing that the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Ghana are longstanding development partners that share a mutual commitment to broad-based economic growth, poverty reduction, democracy and human rights, and;

Recalling that the two Governments dedicated themselves on February 11, 2011, to work together to accelerate and sustain broad-based and inclusive economic growth in Ghana through the Partnership for Growth, based upon a completed rigorous joint analysis to identify key constraints to growth, and;

Appreciating the rigorous and extensive analysis by the joint country teams of constraints to economic growth, representing a whole of government approach by the United States and Ghana,

AFFIRM TODAY THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:

1. That the key binding constraints as defined by the jointly conducted analysis are: lack of reliable and adequate supply of electrical power and the lack of access to credit. The analysis also identified as additional constraints the lack of access to secure land rights, and the lack of access to potable water.
2. That the two Governments intend to focus initially on and address the need for increased investment and reforms in the power sector, while recognizing that all of the identified constraints are impediments to growth.

3. That the initial objective of this Joint Country Action Plan is to strengthen the power sector. In addition, the two Governments intend to continue work on addressing the access to credit constraint with the objective of integrating it into the Joint Country Action Plan.
4. That the two Governments intend to undertake the necessary consultations, discussions and negotiations to implement the recommendations contained in the Joint Country Action Plan, focused on the following:
 - a. The Government of the Republic of Ghana intends to implement legislative, policy and regulatory reforms and allocate adequate resources to address known and emerging constraints throughout the power sector.
 - b. The Government of the United States intends to offer diagnostic tools and technical expertise to assess challenges, recommend technical interventions and increase institutional capacity throughout the power sector, with emphasis on increased participation of domestic and international private sector actors, and funding.
5. That, in addition to the joint efforts in paragraph three above, future joint efforts may be undertaken, as decided by both Governments, on other constraints identified in the constraints analysis: access to secure land rights and access to potable drinking water.
6. That significant reduction of the full set of constraints identified in the constraints analysis is necessary for Ghana to achieve economic growth rates that reflect its full potential.
7. That the two Governments are desirous of working together to achieve measureable results. The Government of the Republic of Ghana intends to execute catalytic, sustainable, transparent and non-discriminatory economic reforms to spur rapid broad-based and inclusive economic growth, demonstrating transformational leadership to drive meaningful policy change and institutional reform.
8. That the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Ghana embrace the principles of country ownership, partnership, and mutual commitment and accountability. The United States and Ghana intend to mobilize a wide range of instruments to increase measurable impact, including assistance and non-assistance tools, using assistance to leverage private capital, convening the private sector to increase investment, and supporting efforts to create an enabling environment for economic growth.

9. That the two Governments mutually desire to develop and implement, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, a Joint Country Action Plan, to sustain a high-level dialogue needed to coordinate mutual efforts, establish a measurable monitoring and evaluation framework, and to form a governing framework including a joint steering committee to track progress and introduce program modifications as necessary. The Governments intend to undertake implementation under this Statement in accordance with domestic laws and budgetary processes. This Statement is not intended to create rights or obligations under domestic or international law.

Signed at Washington, in duplicate, this 9th day of March 2012.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Steven Chu

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF GHANA:

Kwame Ninsin